Period will be about Rs. 1000 Crore and production of CBM is expected to be 2.6 BCM during 11th Plan Period.

Oil and gas exploration in Arunachal Pradesh

1969. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent seismic surveys have indicated huge presence of Oil and Natural Gas in various areas of Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the likely quantity which would be available;

(c) whether any commercial activity like drilling is likely to be undertaken;

(d) if so, when it is likely to start active operations in this area;

(e) whether any special funds are being created to undertake such activity by Government; and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) In one exploration block namely AA-ONN-2003/2 contracted to consortium of Geopetrol, NTPC and Canoro in Arunachal Pradesh under the fifth round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-V), Operator has carried out 2D Seismic Survey for 206 Line Kilo Metre. Based on the interpretation of survey, the prospective location for drilling will be decided.

As on 1.4.2007 the oil & gas reserves estimated in Arunachal Pradesh were 4.85 MMT Oil & Oil Equivalent Gas (O&OEG) against total oil & gas reserves of 1843.1 MMT estimated for the country.

However, the likely quantity to be extracted will depend on exploratory efforts.

(e) and (f) Government does not invest any amount in the blocks awarded under Production Sharing Contract regime. The operator has to bear all the expenditure of exploration and development.

CAG report about ONGC

†1970. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CAG has reported that ONGC has adopted a casual approach towards the production of crude oil, as a result of which thousands of crore rupees have been misused;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of new oilfields given to ONGC from March, 2003 to January, 2008 for production?

†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) has recently forwarded their observations on an audit titled "Deep Water Exploration" relating to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). They have observed that unfruitful expenditure has been incurred by ONGC.

(c)During the period from March, 2003 to January, 2008, no new oil fields have been given to ONGC for production. However, during this period 39 exploration blocks have been awarded to ONGC (with operatorship) in various rounds of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). In addition, ONGC has participating interest in eight other blocks, awarded during this period where other consortium partners are operators.

ONGC also acquired a Block (KG-DWN-98/2) with 90% Participating Interest and operatorship from Cairn Energy India Pvt. Limited (CEIL) in 2005.

Oil refinery at Allahabad

1971. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Public Sector Oil Company proposes to set up an oil refinery at Allahabad;

(b) whether the government has finalized its view in this regard; and;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Consequent on de-licensing of refinery sector since June, 1998 a refinery may be set up anywhere in India by a Private or Public Sector Enterprise depending on the promoter's assessment of its commercial viability. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has a proposal for setting up of a 7 MMTPA refinery at Lohagara district Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. The project is linked to the commissioning of the refinery being set up by Bharat Oman Refineries Limited (a Joint Venture Company of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Oman Oil Company Limited) at Bina, as the crude oil import facilities being set up for Bina Refinery project would be augmented suitably to take care of crude requirement for this refinery project also.

Achievement of the target for production of crude oil

†1972. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target was fixed to enhance the production of crude oil for the year 2007-08 in country;

(b) if so, what was that target and to what extent it was more than the production target for 2006-07;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi